



PATENT  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1742

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 7, 2007.*

Sarah C. Carranceja  
Sarah C. Carranceja

Appl No.	: 10/731,710	Confirmation No. 5454
Applicant	: Xian Yao, et al.	
Filed	: December 9, 2003	
Title	: METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING CELL	
TC/A.U.	: 1742	
Examiner	: Weiping Zhu	
Docket No.	: 50547/M277	
Customer No.	: 23363	

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
August 7, 2007

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action mailed on June 7, 2007, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.